

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 16-29 were allowed in the parent application and have been canceled. Claims 8-15 were withdrawn in the parent application and are presented in this application as claims 28 - 35.

The specification is amended in several places to correct obvious typographical errors. In addition the term "a-amino" is replaced with " α -amino" and the prefix "amido-" is removed from the description of proton accepting groups so that the specification will be consistent with various amendments to claim 1 suggested by the Examiner.

For convenience of the Examiner, we are attaching a reformatted copy of the specification and claims incorporating all of the amendments referred to in this preliminary amendment as well as a copy of the application as filed in the parent application Serial No. 09/877,957.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Berliner", with a large, stylized initial "R" and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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